LISTING OF THE CLAIMS:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1 – 25. (Canceled)

26. (Previously Presented) A method comprising:

detecting a change to a setting of a database system;

determining a plurality of predicted outcomes resulting from the detected change, wherein the plurality of predicted outcomes relate to future operation of the database system;

monitoring the database system for an occurrence of at least one of the predicted outcomes;

based on the monitoring, detecting the occurrence of at least one of the predicted outcomes; and

displaying to a user an indication of the occurrence of the at least one of the predicted outcomes.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26, further comprising:

generating a determination that the change to the setting of the database system has decreased performance of the database system;

determining a degree of confidence in the determination that the setting of the change to the database system has decreased performance of the database system; and

displaying to the user the degree of confidence in the determination that the setting of the change to the database system has decreased performance of the database system.

28-31. (Canceled)

32. (Previously Presented) A system comprising:

a processor; and

a memory storing program instructions executable by the processor to:

detect a change to a setting of a database system;

determine a plurality of predicted outcomes resulting from the detected change, wherein the plurality of predicted outcomes relate to future operation of the database system;

monitor the database system for an occurrence of at least one of the predicted outcomes;

based on the monitoring, detect the occurrence of at least one of the predicted outcomes; and

cause a user indication of the occurrence of the at least one of the predicted outcomes to be displayed.

33. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 32, further comprising program instructions executable by the processor to:

generate a determination that the change to the setting of the database system has decreased performance of the database system;

determine a degree of confidence in the determination that the change to the setting of the database system has decreased performance of the database system; and

display to the user the degree of confidence in the determination that the change to the setting of the database system has decreased performance of the database system.

34. (Previously Presented) A computer readable storage medium including program instructions executable to:

detect a change to a setting of a database system;

determine a plurality of predicted outcomes resulting from the detected change, wherein the plurality of predicted outcomes relate to future operation of the database system;

monitor the database system for an occurrence of at least one of the predicted outcomes;

based on the monitoring, detect the occurrence of at least one of the predicted outcomes; and

cause a user indication of the occurrence of the at least one of the predicted outcomes to be displayed.

35. (Previously Presented) The storage medium of claim 34, further comprising program instructions executable by the processor to:

generate a determination that the change to the setting of the database system has decreased performance of the database system;

determine a degree of confidence in the determination that the change to the setting of the database system has decreased performance of the database system; and

display to the user the degree of confidence in the determination that the change the setting of to the database system has decreased performance of the database system.

36. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

means for detecting a change to a setting of database system;

means for determining a plurality of predicted outcomes resulting from the detected change, wherein the plurality of predicted outcomes relate to future operation of the database system;

means for monitoring the database system for an occurrence of at least one of the predicted outcomes;

means for detecting the occurrence of at least one of the predicted outcomes based on the monitoring; and

means for displaying to a user an indication of the occurrence of the at least one of the predicted outcomes based on the detecting.

37. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26 wherein the plurality of predicted outcomes is determined based on a set of predictive rules.

38. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26 wherein the plurality of predicted outcomes is determined based on monitored historical behavior of the database system.

39. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26 wherein monitoring the database system includes monitoring the number and type of transactions carried out by the database system.

40. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26 wherein monitoring the database system includes monitoring timing information associated with database transactions.

41. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26 wherein monitoring the database system includes comparing a performance of the database system after the change to a historical baseline.

42. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26 further comprising providing a user indication that indicates recommendations of alternate changes to the database system.

43. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 32 wherein the program instructions are further executable by the processor to determine the plurality of predicted outcomes based on a set of predictive rules.

44. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 32 wherein the program instructions are further executable by the processor to determine the plurality of predicted outcomes based on monitored historical behavior of the database system.

45. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 32 wherein the program instructions are further executable by the processor to monitor the database system by comparing a performance of the database system after the change to a historical baseline.

46. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 32 wherein the program instructions are further executable by the processor to provide a user indication that indicates recommendations of alternate changes to the database system.

47. (Previously Presented) The storage medium of claim 34 wherein the program instructions are further executable by the processor to determine the plurality of predicted outcomes based on a set of predictive rules.

48. (Previously Presented) The storage medium of claim 34 wherein the program instructions are further executable by the processor to determine the plurality of predicted outcomes based on monitored historical behavior of the database system.

49. (Previously Presented) The storage medium of claim 34 wherein the program instructions are further executable by the processor to provide a user indication that indicates recommendations of alternate changes to the database system.